



FOUNDED 1881

# AMERICAN SCHOOL of CLASSICAL STUDIES

AT ATHENS

SUMMER 2020

NUMBER 75

American School professors with Regular Members at the Sanctuary of Zeus in Ancient Nemea



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**Jenifer Neils**, Director of the School

## Adapting to a Pandemic

Needless to say, it has been an unusual spring at the American School. Up until Friday, March 13, the Regular Members were enjoying the warm weather and the nearly empty archaeological sites and museums, the Loring Hall renovation was humming along, and we had a spectacular lecture series in the offing. Then, for the first time since World War II, we had to shut our gates, close down the libraries, cancel our forthcoming optional trips to Delos and Turkey, and send our staff home—thankfully only temporarily. As is universally acknowledged, Greece handled the coronavirus pandemic very astutely, and as a result we all felt safe and after a week of shutdown most of us returned to work.

Our amazing students, whom you will meet in this 75th issue of the *Newsletter* (page 8), were more than satisfied with the academic program, Mellon Professor Sylvian Fachard's leadership, and their extensive travels from the Albanian border to Crete. We are now doing our best to livestream many of the events we all enjoy at the School: Tea Talks, Wiener Laboratory lectures, Gennadeion tours, and much more to come. We encourage you to watch these live or explore our website's catalogue of over 550 archived Cotsen Hall lectures and events.

We hope to see many of you back here in Athens soon, and in the meantime, we will stay in touch virtually.



**George Orfanakos**, Executive Director

## Building for Future Generations

In December of 2019, the American School commenced the long-awaited expansion and renovation of Loring Hall. The new Student Center is the final major capital project for our main campus in Athens, and it will benefit our students and scholars for generations to come.

Despite the pandemic and ensuing government restrictions, we have made significant progress with the Student Center. The School applauds all those who have worked tirelessly to keep construction on track. On page 16, we feature a conversation with General Manager Tellos Panos, who provides fascinating insights into the project.

Unquestionably, this important initiative would not have been possible without financial

support and visionary leadership. On pages 19–21, we highlight some of the notable benefactors who contributed to this campaign. Thanks to their efforts, we have raised \$6.7 million of our \$9.4 million goal, inclusive of a maintenance endowment. We are deeply grateful to the generous donors who have already named rooms and spaces in the Student Center and invite others to consider the remaining opportunities.

Ultimately, this living monument will not only house students and scholars but also honor donors and historic figures from the School's glorious past. We hope you will join us in Athens for the Student Center inauguration on Saturday, June 5, 2021 (see back cover). Please save the date!

## Dealing with COVID-19: *Menoume Spiti*

As COVID-19 spread around the world, the American School responded swiftly and decisively. On March 13, the School officially closed its gates to the public, and three days later, it was no longer accessible to its own resident members. Within the week, most of the students returned to their homes in the U.S. to wait out the pandemic, while those few who stayed in Greece were apartment-bound except for trips to the grocery store and exercise excursions. After a week, most of our administrative staff returned to their offices (unless they had children at home because of school cancellations), and library personnel managed to work from home with the unfailing help of Tarek Elemam, the School's Information Systems and Technology Manager.

In the early days of the crisis, the School made special accommodations to support and facilitate scholarly research, including allowing members to borrow books from the Blegen Library and offering expanded access to its publications such as *Hesperia* and the *Agora* and *Corinth* series. The School put forth a valiant effort to carry out its academic programs, but they eventually fell victim to the pandemic. On March 25, the School postponed its 2020 summer programs, and on May 11, the School made the difficult and disappointing decision to cancel its Regular Program for 2020–2021. However, we are permitting deferments in hopes that accepted Regular Members can join us in 2021. At that time, we expect all our facilities will be fully reopened and the renovation of Loring Hall to be completed.

For seven weeks, Athens became eerily but pleasantly quiescent, with no planes or helicopters buzzing overhead, no cars honking (although car alarms still went off), and most construction projects



Above: School guards take the temperatures of all guests entering the facilities.

Below: Blegen Library equipment is sanitized regularly to help mitigate the spread of germs.

halted. The ubiquitous Athenian cats took over the streets, wandering freely, while dogs looked down unhappily from their balconies. It was a particularly gorgeous spring with clear blue skies (perhaps because pollution was reduced by 45%). The fragrance of orange blossoms was almost intoxicating, and the peach-colored roses in the garden were extraordinarily brilliant. The chirping of birds seemed much louder without any background noise, or maybe they were just happier.

The lack of a traditional Easter was certainly a disappointment for everyone, but we made do with a gathering of members via Zoom from the School garden. At midnight, as fireworks exploded over Mt. Lykavittos, Athenians lit candles and shouted “*Christos anesti!*” from their balconies.

Bereft of its members, friends, and colleagues, the School's familiar intellectual and collegial atmosphere is noticeably absent. However, we have been taking small but measured steps to return to some semblance of normalcy. The Blegen was finally reopened on May 4, but only to members by appointment. The Gennadius

Library followed suit with a gradual re-opening plan that began on June 3. Members and fellowship holders are welcome to use the School's libraries, laboratory, and the Corinth and Agora research facilities after consultation with the director and relevant department heads. Meanwhile, Head Chef Takis Iliopoulos has resumed serving weekday lunches, which diners can enjoy in the Lower Garden (while sitting at least two meters apart).

The School looks forward to welcoming everyone back as soon as conditions allow and emerging from the crisis even stronger than before. In the meantime, we are happy to assist you in any way we can and wish you a safe and relaxing summer.





**Maria Georgopoulou**, Director of the Gennadius Library

GENNADIUS LIBRARY



### Overseers of the Gennadius Library

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\*Chairman Emeritus

## Phokion Potamianos Establishes Thalia Potamianos Annual Lecture Series on the Impact of Greek Culture



Left: Overseer Phokion Potamianos Right: Dr. Thalia Potamianos

The Overseers of the Gennadius Library are pleased to announce the establishment of the Thalia Potamianos Annual Lecture Series on the Impact of Greek Culture. The program is being made possible by a generous 10-year commitment totaling \$1 million from Phokion Potamianos, an Overseer of the Gennadius Library. Mr. Potamianos named the lecture series in memory of his grandmother, a distinguished doctor, academic, and philanthropist who led a life dedicated to the public good and public service.

The result of a visionary initiative by Mr. Potamianos, this lecture series will examine the reception, continuing relevance,

and impact of Greek thought and culture. Mr. Potamianos hopes the program will create a stimulating environment to draw both the academic community and the general public to the American School and the Gennadius Library.

Mr. Potamianos remarked, "It is my hope that this lecture series will highlight the wealth and depth of the Gennadius Library collections and how these reflect the multifaceted legacy of Greek thought and culture from ancient to modern times. Moreover, giving these lectures both in Greece and the United States will raise academic as well as public awareness of the work and legacy of the American

School and the Gennadius Library in both countries."

Every year, a highly distinguished, internationally renowned scholar will be selected to conduct research and develop programs on a topic relevant to the Gennadius Library. The research will culminate in a minimum of three annual public "keystone" lectures, at least one of which will be delivered in the American School's Cotsen Hall in Athens and one in the United States. These talks will be accompanied by publications, podcasts, and other appropriate media to maximize exposure and engagement. They might also be enhanced by a related event such as a theatrical performance, a concert, or site visits.

The Overseers of the Gennadius Library received this news with great joy and enthusiasm. Chairman Andreas Zombanakis spoke on their behalf and thanked Mr. Potamianos for his philanthropic support and inspiration.

Mr. Zombanakis said, "I am deeply moved by this generous gift and the vision behind it. This unique and significant lecture series is transformational and will continue to enhance the American School's mission of being a world center for the study of Greece from antiquity to the present day."

Maria Georgopoulou, Director of the Gennadius Library, echoed Mr. Zombanakis' sentiments and added, "This exciting initiative offers a unique opportunity to

engage in new programming that enriches the scope of the Gennadius Library and the American School."

Jenifer Neils, Director of the American School, also expressed her profound gratitude to Mr. Potamianos. She stated, "The opportunity to bring academics of international stature closer to the School community will appeal to laypersons, scholars, and students who are increasingly interested in the later reception of Greek history and culture. Our ability to employ different types of digital media means that the Thalia Potamianos lectures can be disseminated worldwide and thereby spark interest and further exploration of the manifold Greek contributions to civilization."

## Explore the American School's Video Archive

We are proud to offer its expansive collection of over 550 videos—including Cotsen Hall lectures, conferences, webinars, and musical performances—free to the public. Please visit [ascsa.edu.gr/news-and-events](http://ascsa.edu.gr/news-and-events) to view the archived videos as well as other media about the School.



## Ambassador Boura Appointed as President of Gennadius Library *Philoī*

The American School and the Gennadius Library are honored to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Catherine Boura to the position of President of the *Philoī*: the Association of Friends of the Gennadius Library in Greece.

"As the new President of the Friends of the Gennadius Library and a new member of its Board of Overseers, I am committed to enhancing support to the Library, strengthening outreach to the broader community, and making the treasures of Greek history it holds known to a wider audience," Boura said.

Born in Athens, Boura joined the Diplomatic Service in 1984. She has served

in various posts in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Athens, and in diplomatic posts in Nicosia, London, and the Council of the European Union in Brussels. Her most recent posts include: Consul General of Greece in New York, Ambassador of Greece to Lebanon, Ambassador of Greece to the UAE, and Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations.

Boura holds a B.A. in Literature from the University of Athens as well as a Ph.D. in History from King's College London. An accomplished scholar, she has published on research in several archives, including the archive of A. Soulites-Nicolaides at the Gennadius Library.



Catherine Boura



Natalia Vogeikoff-Brogan, Doreen Canaday Spitzer Archivist

ARCHIVES

## Ion Dragoumis: 100 Years After His Assassination



In April 1897, Director Rufus B. Richardson was ready to begin the School's second season of excavations at Corinth. "In spite of the fact that troops were already assembled on the Turkish frontier...I proceeded with the intention of going ahead until I was actually stopped." Within a few days, however, "the great catastrophe of the Greek army, and the retreat to Pharsala, decided me to suspend operations for the year," wrote Richardson in his Annual Report. In addition to canceling the School's dig season, the Greek-Turkish War of 1897 forced the German Institute to abandon its scheduled trips, while the French School's 50th-anniversary celebrations were postponed until the next fall. But all these were slight matters "compared with the injury which the war had caused to the national interests of Greece," Richardson assessed. He further added that Harriet Boyd, one of the School's students, "has thrown herself with all her energy and sympathy into the hospital service near the front, and who will say that she has not studied Greek life

to some purpose?" Three years later, in 1900, Boyd would be the first American woman to direct her own excavations on Crete, after Richardson refused to let her dig at Corinth.

Just as a climate of defeatism took over Greece after the War of 1897, a young man from the upper echelons of Greek society entered the nation's political scene. A diplomat, writer, philosopher, visionary, and revolutionary, Ion Dragoumis (1878–1920) became a legendary figure in the Greek imagination because of his untimely death in 1920. He was killed in cold blood by his political opponents, a day after the attempted assassination of Eleftherios Venizelos in Paris. Photographs in the School's Archives also show that Dragoumis was a frequent guest at the American School, being friends with Richardson's daughter Lucy.

Dragoumis held a number of diplomatic posts between 1902 and 1916, in Monastir (Bitola), Constantinople, Bucharest, Rome, and other places. While serving in Macedonian posts, he supported the creation of armed guerilla groups and secret organizations to fight the Bulgarian penetration into Macedonia. As an uncompromising free thinker, he did not subscribe to Venizelos's vision of the "Megali Idea"; instead, he supported the creation of an "Anatolian Confederation," where Greeks, Turks, Albanians, Arabs, and others would live together peacefully in a democratic state ruled by the Turks. Eventually, he crossed swords with Venizelos and met his death at the hands of pro-Venizelists.

James Penrose Harland, a student at the School in 1920 and later a well-known archaeologist, described in his diary the riots that preceded Ion's death. "In all, nine [news]papers (Royalist) were raided and

many Royalist houses ransacked and a Mr. Dragoumis (former minister to Russia) killed, and 600 Royalists imprisoned," Harland scribbled on August 13th (July 31st in the old-style calendar).

The link between Ion Dragoumis and the American School continued after his death. In 1960, his brother Philippos donated Ion's personal papers to the Archives, with the stipulation that they should not become available for research until 2000. To commemorate the centenary of Ion Dragoumis's political assassination, the Archives is organizing a major exhibition scheduled to open on October 15, 2020. "Ion Dragoumis: Between East and West; One Hundred Years After His Assassination" will showcase, for the first time, rare documents and photos from Dragoumis's personal archive.



*Top:* Ion Dragoumis, ca. 1920.  
*Above:* Lucy Richardson and Ion Dragoumis at the American School, ca. 1899 (ASCSA Archives, Ion Dragoumis Papers).

FROM THE ARCHIVIST'S NOTEBOOK

Please visit [nataliavogeikoff.com](http://nataliavogeikoff.com) to read more essays inspired by archival research in Athens.



Christopher Pfaff, Director of the Corinth Excavations

## CORINTH EXCAVATIONS

## Conservation of Roman Wall Paintings at Corinth

In November of 2019, a major conservation project focused on Roman wall paintings was launched at Corinth. Making use of the sprawling spaces of the School's new *apotheke* (storage building), a team of Italian and Spanish conservators began the process of piecing together thousands of fragments of wall paintings that came to light during the 1980s in Charles Williams's excavations east of the theater.

The surviving wall fragments belong to two distinct contexts. One group, probably dating to the 1st century B.C., is likely to derive from the theater, while the second, probably dating to the 1st century A.D., comes from a room in one of several private buildings that lined the street along the east side of the theater.

At the time of the excavations, Stella Bouzaki, then conservator of the Corinth Excavations, carefully recorded the locations of the major falls of wall fragments and lifted them for safe storage. Due to the lack of adequate space, the conservation and consolidation of these fragments could not advance until the *apotheke* was completed in July 2018.

To bring this project to fruition, Charles Williams contacted Roberto Nardi of the Centro di Conservazione Archeologica in Rome, which has been involved in a number of high-profile conservation and restoration projects since 1982, including the restoration of the mosaic of the Transfiguration in the Monastery of St. Catherine in Sinai. Once at Corinth, Nardi assessed the local resources, sorted out the logistics, and formed a large team of professional conservators to carry out the project. By late November 2019, nearly all the available space of the *apotheke* was occupied by tables on which the fragments of wall paintings were being spread and assembled like pieces of giant jigsaw puz-



*Top:* Professional conservators assemble painting fragments in the *apotheke*.  
*Above:* Conservation Director Roberto Nardi.

zles. Teams of, on average, 12 conservators cycled in and out of Corinth, working in shifts of 45 days in a row (excluding only Sundays). The COVID-19 outbreak halted work in March 2020, but the team had already made considerable progress and gained significant new insights about the techniques used in creating the paintings.

There is, however, still much to be done to complete the assembly of fragments, and that is, of course, only the

beginning of the process. Once assembled in their proper places, the fragments will be consolidated within panels backed by a stable, lightweight honeycomb support. Following this mounting process, the wall paintings can eventually be displayed for the public to enjoy.

We are all eager to see the return of Dr. Nardi and his team from their COVID isolation and a resumption of this amazing project.

# Meet Our Regular Members



**① Adrienne Atkins**

University of Pennsylvania  
Topic: The Poet, the Parodist, and the Critic: Homeric Parody and the Beginnings of Greek Literary Criticism

**② Maura Brennan**

University of Cincinnati  
Topic: Contextualization of 5th-Century Athenian Vases within the Contemporary Iconographical Landscape of Athens and Abroad

**③ Sam Butler**

Michael Jameson Fellowship  
Brown University  
Topic: Epigraphic Habits of Communities in Greece and Anatolia during the Archaic and Classical Periods

**④ Sidney Christman**

Virginia Grace Fellowship  
University of Virginia  
Topic: The Role of Divine Emotion in the Homeric Hymns

**⑤ Shannon Dunn**

Bryn Mawr College  
Topic: Landscape archaeology, Greek religion, the Bronze Age Aegean

**⑥ Christopher Gipson**

Fowler Merle-Smith Fellowship  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Topic: Greek tragedy and Satyr-play

**⑦ Melanie Godsey**

Heinrich Schliemann Fellowship  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Topic: The Aegean under the Ptolemies: Material and Practice of Empire in Context

**⑧ Konstantinos Karathanasis**

Philip Lockhart Fellowship  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Topic: The Individual and the Polis: Theorizing the Political in Old Comedy

**⑨ Evan Levine**

John Williams White Fellowship  
Brown University  
Topic: Economies at the Limits of the Hellenistic World

**⑩ Jane Millar**

Martin Ostwald Fellowship  
University of Texas at Austin  
Topic: Archaeology and

Environmental History of the Early Roman Provinces

**⑪ Naje Olya**

Bert Hodge Hill Fellowship  
University of Virginia  
Topic: Constructing the African in Ancient Greek Vase-Painting: Images, Meanings, and Contexts

**⑫ Jessica Plant**

James Rignall Wheeler Fellowship  
Cornell University  
Topic: Late Antique and Byzantine art and archaeology of the Mediterranean

**⑬ Felipe Soza**

Lucy Shoe Meritt Fellowship  
Harvard University  
Topic: Antigonid Imperialism in Mainland Greece, the Aegean and Asia Minor, 306–167 B.C.

**⑭ Valia Tsikritea**

Emily Townsend Vermeule Fellowship  
University of Cincinnati  
Topic: Pottery and Figurines Dated from the Late Minoan III Period to the 8th Century from the Peak Sanctuary of Juktas

**⑮ Evan Vance**

Thomas Day Seymour Fellowship  
University of California, Berkeley  
Topic: Public Finance in the Archaic Argolid and Saronic Gulf

**⑯ Kevin Woram**

University of Virginia  
Topic: Political economy of the high Roman empire

**⑰ Joshua Zacks**

University of Washington  
Topic: Agonistic Intertextuality: Studies in Pindar and Bacchylides

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The American School offers graduate students an unparalleled immersion into the sites and monuments of Greek civilization. We also afford many facilities, resources, activities, and other programs for scholars, teachers, and undergraduate students. To learn more about our academic programs, please visit [ascsa.edu.gr/programs](http://ascsa.edu.gr/programs).



**Sylvian Fachard**, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Classical Studies

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

## “Flipping” the Program: Parting Advice from Sylvian Fachard

The 2019–2020 Regular Program was “flipped” to meet the challenges posed by the closing of Loring Hall. The Athens-Attica program and the Whitehead seminars, traditionally taught in the winter, were moved to the fall; three of the fall trips were shifted to the winter, between January and early March. These changes, which might have appeared as rather far-reaching a year ago, ended up offering significant and appreciable advantages. First of all, having the Athens and Attica visits in the fall allowed us to cover a large amount of important material early in the year. This enabled us to spend more time on Attic sites under excellent conditions: extended daylight, warm weather, longer opening hours on sites and museums, and...a quick swim at the end of the Wednesday trips (I highly recommend the Kavouri beach after visiting Cape Zoster). Moreover, spending the first part of the year in Athens allows students to get acquainted with the city, monuments, and intellectual life, meet colleagues from the foreign schools, explore the Athenian culinary scene, and find their favorite hangouts. By late October, Athens feels like home. Additionally, meeting with the students three times a week for the first three and a half months allows the Mellon Professor to not only “set the tone” but also to build up momentum. By December, the Regular Members have amassed a wealth of knowledge on Athens and Attica (and on the Whitehead seminar topics), which serves them well for the subsequent trips to Central Greece, the Peloponnese, and Crete.

So far, so good. But what about traveling in the winter? You might be thinking: cold days, bad weather, and stuffy hotel rooms at the end of a long day on the road. Well, the truth is, there is very little of that



*Top:* Members enjoy a spectacular view of Siphai on the Gulf of Corinth *Above left:* Students hiking at Panakton *Above right:* Sylvian Fachard expatiates the Mazi plain from the top of the Panakton site

now. Traveling in Greece from January to March is delightful. The weather is mostly sunny, with temperatures averaging 8–13°C (46–55°F), the light is crisp, and the greenery is lush. Rain? Weather statistics

show that January and February get 10–12 days of rain on average, with accumulated precipitation of less than 50–56 millime-

*continued on page 10*

## Academic Program

# 2019–2020 Elizabeth A. Whitehead Distinguished Scholars

Every year, two scholars are granted fellowships at the School to further their own research, teach a graduate seminar, and advise our students in the Regular Program. This past year, we were privileged to offer the Whitehead Distinguished Scholar positions to Cynthia Patterson of Emory University and Christopher Ratté of the University of Michigan. Both gave lectures in Cotsen Hall about their research projects, offered engaging seminars, and accompanied our students on many of the trips.

Patterson said, “The trips were all and more than I had hoped for. It was exciting to see the expansion of archaeological discovery throughout Greece and especially the creation of excellent new local museums. The hotels were distinctly better than what I remembered from 45 years ago!” She taught a seminar on “Health and Healing in the Ancient Greek World” with special emphasis on Athens. Patterson’s ambitious research topic, Plato’s engagement with the critical current issues of his day, including the emergence of Hippocratic medicine, the problem of slavery, and the value of studying the past, morphed into a more focused study of slavery, a fundamental issue of Plato’s world. During our trip to the Deep Peloponnese, she organized an animated discussion of the helots, and stated that the visits to Messene and Messenia had a



Left: Cynthia Patterson



Right: Christopher Ratté

major impact on her decision to change the focus of her research. One of the highlights of the year was a dramatic reading of Plato’s *Symposium* (adapted by Rush Rehm) in the West House saloni.

Christopher Ratté currently serves as the director of the University of Michigan’s survey project at ancient Notion in western Turkey. He taught a seminar to a dozen students on “The Lives of Cities in Greece and Western Anatolia in the Hellenistic and Early Roman Periods,” which emphasized the value of a comparative perspective on the study of cities. Unfortunately, Ratté’s carefully planned trip to Ionia and Caria had to be canceled in March due to COVID-19, but we are hopeful that he can reschedule it for 2021. Ratté summed up his time at the School in his final report as follows: “The aspect of

graduate teaching I have always enjoyed the most has been the opportunity to work closely with students in the field, engaging at first hand with the subject matter of archaeological research, from landscape to building to object to inscribed text, and imagining the human activities that lie behind these material traces. I have felt the same excitement working with the Regular Members this year, helping them to hone their powers of observation and to bring to their knowledge of the ancient world the perspective that only autopsy can provide. I am grateful to the American School for giving me this opportunity.”

We are grateful to both Whitehead Distinguished Scholars for their countless contributions to the life and work of the School this past year.

## **“Flipping” the Program** (continued from page 9)

ters (2–2.2 inches). Lousy hotels? Well, hotel standards have improved tremendously in Greece, so we always felt very comfortable and warm (plus, they are cheaper in the low season). Food? In Greece, the

tavernas that stay open during the winter months serve locals, not tourists. Just follow the local crowds for Livadia’s best *páidakia*, Trikala’s spiciest *bouyiourdi*, and Volos’s unique *tsipouradika*. It gets better.

We are magically alone on archaeological sites. Yes, even in Delphi and Olympia. Not convinced? Just give it another try.



Eric Driscoll, Assistant Director of the School

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

## Regular Members Make Memorable Visit to Crete

In March, Assistant Director Eric Driscoll, in collaboration with Tom Brogan, Director of the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP) Study Center for East Crete, led members to Crete for the final trip of the Regular Program. Driscoll and Brogan had planned an exciting, revamped, and expanded itinerary brimming with sites to survey the full panorama of the island's landscape and history. Although the trip ended prematurely thanks to the worsening coronavirus pandemic, participants were still able to crisscross central and eastern Crete to visit sites ranging from Early Minoan to early modern in date. Highlights included the Minoan palaces of Knossos, Malia, and Zakros; hikes to upland settlements at Karfi, Kavousi Kastro, and the peak sanctuary atop Petsofas; and a stroll through the picturesque abandoned village of Voïla.

In addition to reports from the two leaders and trip participants, visits to sites



Members pose as Late Minoan "Goddess with Upraised Arms" figurines atop Kavousi Kastro

and museums were enriched through the generosity of expert guest speakers, including British School at Athens Knossos Curator Kostis Christakis, American School Associate Member Alice Crowe, and Azoria Assistant Director and long-

time Cretan archaeologist Melissa Eaby of INSTAP. Driscoll is looking forward to introducing the next group of Regular Members to the fast-developing world of Cretan archaeology.

## Margaret M. Miles Appointed as Interim Mellon Professor

With Sylvian Fachard's departure (see page 22), retired University of California, Irvine, professor Margaret "Margie" M. Miles was appointed as the interim Mellon Professor for the 2020–2021 academic year. Although this will not come to fruition as the Regular Program has been canceled due to COVID-19, we are grateful to the former two-term Mellon Professor for offering to step back into her highly successful former role.

However, the School received welcome news when Miles expressed interest in repeating her popular alumni/ae trip to

northern Greece in June 2021. Ten years ago, in celebration of the 130th anniversary of the School, Miles led a memorable trip to the northeast of Greece. In honor of the School's 140th anniversary, she has proposed a trip to the northwest, an area of Greece with many new museums and fascinating sites largely unknown to tourists. Like all School trips, reports are required and hiking boots are mandatory. If you are interested in participating in this historic excursion, please contact Irene Mantzavinou at [imantzavinou.admin@ascsa.edu.gr](mailto:imantzavinou.admin@ascsa.edu.gr).



Professors Aliki Moustaka, Judy Barringer, Margie Miles, Jenifer Neils, and Cynthia Patterson at Olympia in February 2020



**Alan Shapiro**, Honorary Co-Chair, Edward Capps Society

SPECIAL FEATURE

## Paying it Forward

When I arrived as a Regular Member and Fellow of the School in the fall of 1974, the American School had been on my radar for a very long time. Once there, the rigor of the fall trips (led by Director James McCredie, Professor of Archaeology Willy Eliot, and Corinth Director Charles Williams), the intensive survey of Athens and Attika (led by Judith Binder while Eliot was on sabbatical), the winter seminars (I read Plato with Charles Cahn from Penn), and the training session at Corinth—all added up to an intense learning experience and the forging of lifelong friendships among the students, most of whom went on to active careers in the field (and one future Director of the School, Jack Davis). I believe that virtually every student in the 45 years since then has had a similar experience. This continuity is to me one of the great strengths of the American School.

Although I returned to the States at the end of the Regular Member year, I knew that I would be returning to Athens as often as possible, in the summers and during some sabbaticals. I had the great honor of serving as Elizabeth A. Whitehead Professor twice (1992–1993, 2012–2013) and have enjoyed many summers in Athens. As I see it, there are three main reasons for returning regularly to the School. One is the Blegen Library. Even as someone who had the good fortune to spend much of his career in a research

university with an excellent library, I find that the Blegen is the richest and most inspiring place to do research and writing of any place I know. The holdings are unparalleled, and the dedicated staff are committed to keeping it up to date and running smoothly, and they are especially responsive to the needs of readers.

The second reason is to catch up with colleagues and friends who are scattered all over the U.S. but gather in Athens in the summer, not only to use the library, but to conduct their research in the Agora, at Corinth, and in field projects throughout the country. The third reason is to connect and re-connect with Greek colleagues from all over the country. Though I have had the privilege of attending and working at many fine colleges and universities, I feel it was the American School that has played the most sustained role in shaping my career over the past 45 years.

Making a bequest is the best way I know to show my appreciation and to ensure that I will make a lasting contribution, even as I continue to profit from my continued association with the School while still active. A commitment to the Edward Capps Society will help ensure that the School's academic programs, its many fellowships that support the graduate-student members, and the Library will continue to thrive for future generations of scholars and students.

### EDWARD CAPP'S SOCIETY MEMBERS

The following individuals have generously provided for the future of the School through endowment gifts or by remembering the School in the planning of their estates.

#### Honorary Co-Chairs

H. Alan Shapiro	Annette Merle-Smith
Dawn Smith-Popielski	Nassos Michas
	Jon D. Mikalson
	Margaret M. Miles
	George S. Morgan
Beryl Barr-Sharrar	Priscilla Murray
Sandra J. Bartusis	Jenifer Neils
David Blandford &	David W. Packard
Katharina	Dominic Popielksi
Hassapoyannes	Maurice P. Rehm
Martha W. Baldwin	Curtis N. Runnels
Bowsky	Petros K. Sabatacakis
Edward E. & Betsy Z.	Margaret Samourkas
Cohen	Gareth Schmeling &
Jonathan Z. Cohen &	Silvia Montiglio
Julia Pershan	Paul D. & Linda
Marianthe Colakis	Scotton
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Donald Lateiner	Carolyn S. Snively
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Hunter Lewis	Jere M. Wickens &
William T. Loomis	Carol L. Lawton
Lana J. Mandilas	Malcolm H. Wiener
Richard S. Mason &	Charles K. Williams II
Carol C. Mattusch	John Younger
The McCabe Family	Alexander E. Zagoreos



### About the Edward Capps Society

Membership in the Edward Capps Society is available to any individual or couple who notifies the American School that they have completed an estate plan that includes a provision for the School or any of its departments (including the Gennadius Library), or who have made an outright gift of at least \$100,000 to the School's permanent endowment. For more information, please visit [ascsa.org/give](http://ascsa.org/give).



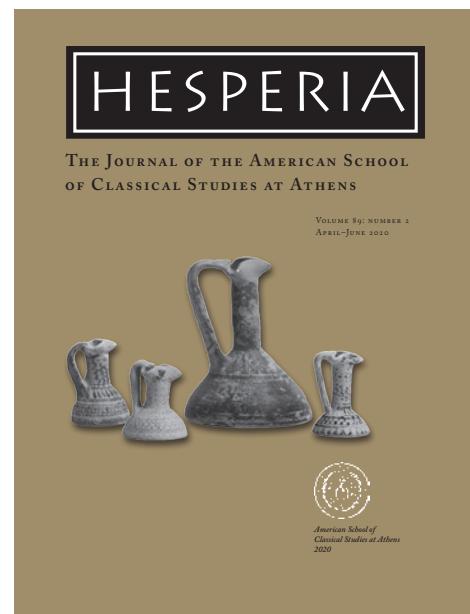
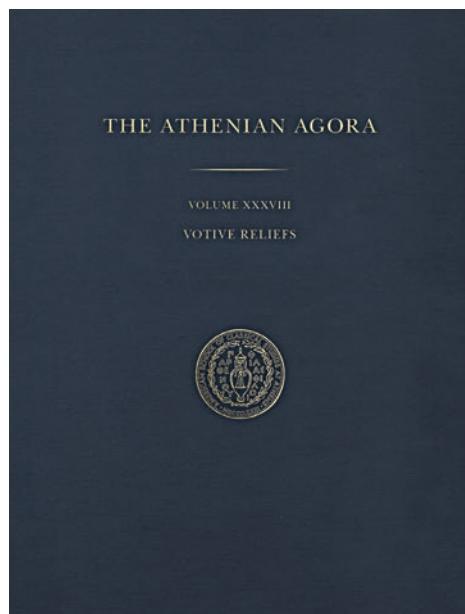
Carol A. Stein, Director of Publications

## PUBLICATIONS

## ASCSA Publications Supports Scholars and Students during COVID-19 Pandemic

To support the shift to remote teaching and research brought on by the global pandemic, ASCSA Publications has taken the following steps to expand access to our online content:

- All ASCSA eBooks were entered into JSTOR's COVID-19 Collection, which offers institutions free access to over 38,000 eBooks. As of May 26, over 3,500 institutions from over 125 countries had signed up for access to this collection.
- All *Hesperia* articles from 2012 onward were made Open Access (the articles prior to 2012 were already freely available on the ASCSA website). During April and May, this change resulted in a 90% increase in article views and downloads over the same period last year.
- The three-year moving wall for volumes in the *Agora*, *Corinth*, and *Hesperia* Supplement series was removed, allowing access to the most recent titles in each of these series.



The steps we have taken have effectively made all of our digital content available to scholars and students alike, and we will keep these changes in place until colleges and universities resume nor-

mal operations. If anyone is experiencing trouble accessing ASCSA content, please contact Carol Stein, Director of Publications, at [castein@ascsa.org](mailto:castein@ascsa.org).

## Mice and Cats in Bronze Age Greece

Former Wiener Laboratory Fellow Dr. Katerina Papayianni coauthored, under the affiliation of the Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the American School, a fascinating paper tracking the spread of the house mouse in southwestern Asia and southeastern Europe, between 40,000 and 3,000 cal BP. The study links the expansion of the house mouse into Greece (with its first appearance on Crete) to the develop-

ment of exchange networks and proto-urbanism during the Bronze Age. At about that time, and as a response to the spread of the house mouse, humans might have mediated the dispersal of domestic cats.

If that is true, cats—mice's "best friends"—have been occupying Greece for at least 4,000 years! You can find more information about the study at [nature.com/articles/s41598-020-64939-9](https://nature.com/articles/s41598-020-64939-9).



## New Publications by American School Staff

### *Athens and Attica in Prehistory*

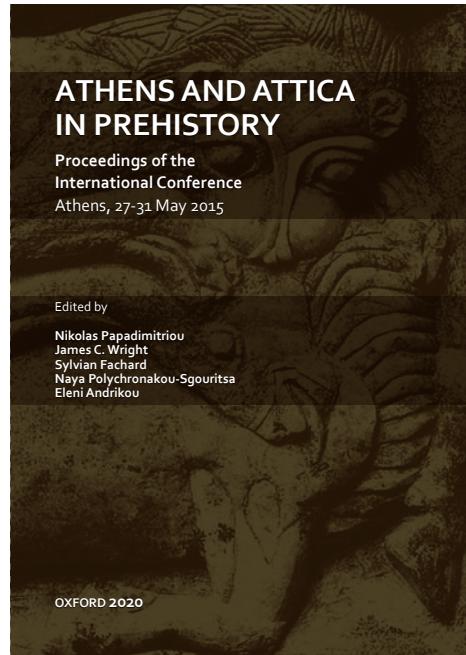
*Proceedings of the International Conference Held at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, May 27–31, 2015. Edited by Nikolaos Papadimitriou, James C. Wright, Sylvian Fachard, Panagiota Polychronakou-Sgouritsa, and Eleni Andrikou*

During the major construction projects for the 2004 Olympic Games, numerous rescue excavations were conducted throughout Athens and Attica by the Greek Archaeological Service. These excavations brought to light significant new prehistoric finds which have transformed our understanding of the region in prehistory. However, despite their importance, the new discoveries remained mostly unnoticed by the international community, as the results were scattered in various publications, and no synthesis was ever attempted. The goal of the 2015 international conference “Athens and Attica in Prehistory,” which was hosted at the American School, was to gather scholars working in the region and to present for the first time a survey of Attic prehistory which would include the most recent discoveries and integrate over a century of scholarship. After five years of editorial work, the proceedings of the conference are now published by Archaeopress in Oxford, thanks to the decisive financial support of the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the American School

of Classical Studies at Athens, and the J. F. Costopoulos Foundation.

The 668-page volume includes over 65 papers in Greek and English with sections dedicated to topography, the palaeo-environment, the Neolithic, the Chalkolithic transition, the Early Bronze Age, and the Middle and Late Bronze Age, as well as the contacts between Attica and its neighboring regions. A series of new detailed maps, derived from a comprehensive GIS database, provides the most up to date topographical and archaeological survey of prehistoric Attica.

Beyond the presentation of the latest discoveries, the volume integrates new scientific research on the environment and material culture, which allows us to better comprehend human exploitation of natural resources for industrial and craft production. Equally, through survey and excavation and advances in chronology, the volume’s contributions provide new information about production, settlement clustering, and social interaction. Consequently, the contributors to this publication paint a much more nuanced and accurate picture of the prehistory of Attica and a new recognition of its regional components and interconnections with other regions of Greece. These have enormous consequences for our understanding of the variability and independence of the different subregions of Attica, the late cohesion



of the basin of Athens, and the importance of different resources, notably the Laurion silver ores, throughout the Bronze Age.

*Athens and Attica in Prehistory* provides the most complete overview of the region from the Neolithic to the end of the Late Bronze Age. Its importance goes beyond the field of Aegean prehistory, as it paves the way for a new understanding of Attica in the Early Iron Age and indirectly throws new light on the origins of what will later become the *polis* of the Athenians.



### Donate Books to the Blegen Library

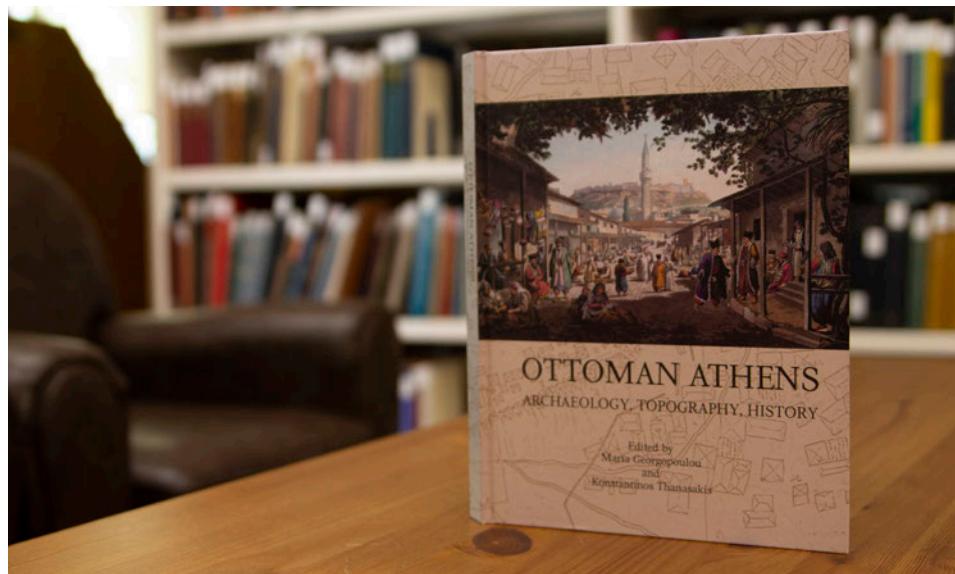
The Blegen Library welcomes gifts of books and other materials that support the instructional and research programs of the School. These gifts play a crucial role in building and expanding the collections of the Library. If you are interested in donating a book or other material, please contact Andrea Guzzetti, Collections Development Librarian, at [aguzzetti.blegen@ascsa.edu.gr](mailto:aguzzetti.blegen@ascsa.edu.gr). Thank you for your support.

## Ottoman Athens: Archaeology, Topography, History

*Ottoman Athens: Archaeology, Topography, History.* Edited by Maria Georgopoulou and Konstantinos Thanasakis.

The Gennadius Library and the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation have collaborated in the publication of an important new book titled, *Ottoman Athens: Archaeology, Topography, History*. This collection of essays began as an international symposium in conjunction with the “Ottoman Athens, 1458–1833” exhibition at the American School in the spring of 2015. Collating sources that highlight unknown facets of Ottoman Athens and juxtaposing little-known accounts and archaeological artifacts with well-known engravings and European travelogues, this volume encourages readers to take a fresh look at early modern Athens.

True to its celebrated Classical heritage, the Acropolis of Athens and its antiquities held center stage in travelogues and sketches, but also in the imagination of travelers and locals. Fortunately, an eyewitness account of the city in the *Seyahatname* [Book of Travels] of Evliya Çelebi aids in tracing the complicated history of the Parthenon in the eyes of the Ottomans. Other essays in this book consider urban planning and the topography of the city, its mosques and a madrasa (next to the Tower of the Winds), as well as hammams, fountains, fine residences for the wealthy,



simple houses for the garrison on the Acropolis, and churches and monasteries, both Orthodox and Latin. Voyeuristic, if comical, references exist to an exotic culture in which public bathing was a normal pastime and social ritual for locals of every confession.

The Ottoman materials unearthed in the excavations of the Athenian Agora confirm the vibrancy of the busy marketplace, so vividly portrayed by Edward Dodwell on the cover of the book. The pottery, published here for the first time as a group, showcases local production as well as imports from Italy and Turkey. The clay tobacco pipes and coffee cups reveal

important customs associated with the Ottomans at the time.

Finally, a look at archival material from Istanbul offers some correctives and new perspectives. The topography of the city on the eve of the Greek War of Independence is made palpable by a newly discovered Ottoman map from the Ottoman State Archives. Previously unknown episodes in the history of the infamous despoliation of the Parthenon by Lord Elgin and of the siege of the Acropolis during the Greek War of Independence have been uncovered through recent archival research. This new publication sheds considerable light on the city of Athens during the 400-year Tourkokrateia.

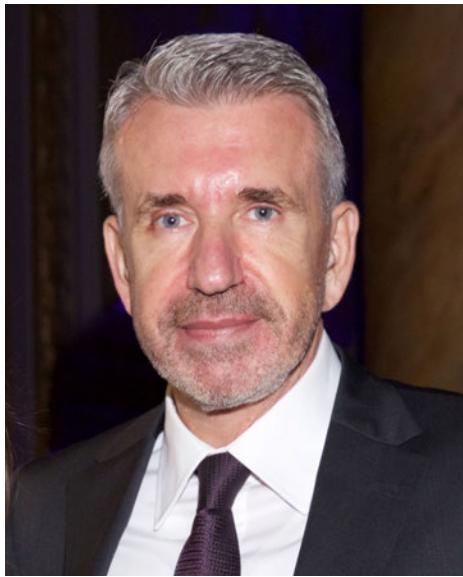
### School Shifts to Virtual Classrooms in Response to Pandemic

COVID-19 temporarily closed its doors, but the School opened virtual classrooms to keep audiences engaged. In addition to broadcasting its *Live from the Lab* and *Live from Corinth* webinars, the School's online programming has featured a wide range of engaging topics and guest speakers. Please visit [ascsa.edu.gr/news-and-events](http://ascsa.edu.gr/news-and-events) to explore our upcoming events as well as our extensive collection of videos.



## Meet Our Staff

# A Conversation with General Manager Tellos Panos



Tellos Panos has been the General Manager of the American School since 1999. He is responsible for the day-to-day business operations at the School, including managing the finances in Greece, preparing and monitoring budgets, supervising purchasing, overseeing maintenance, and liaising with various government ministries.

**Q: When did you begin working with the American School, and what major construction projects have you overseen?**

**A:** During my tenure, I have had the privilege of overseeing many major construction projects that have enhanced and expanded the School's campuses in Athens and Corinth. In 1998, I collaborated with the School as a project manager on the renovation and below-ground expansion of the Gennadius Library. We completed this challenging project in record time (only seven months), and the School subsequently hired me as its General Manager in 1999. Soon afterward,

a major earthquake struck Athens and damaged the Director's House and its 1915 extension. I oversaw the repairs and strengthening of these two buildings, and, for the first time in the School's history, I was able to secure partial funding for a renovation project from the Greek State.

The next major project I oversaw was the construction of Cotsen Hall, a 377-seat auditorium gifted by Lloyd Cotsen. Work began in 2002, and the building was completed two years later. At the same time, the East Wing of the Gennadius Library was renovated.

In the summer of 2014, I supervised two major construction projects. The first was the addition of a new Exhibition Hall and the renovation of the West Wing of the Gennadius Library. This project was partly funded by a grant I helped secure from the European Union (EU). The second project was the construction of a new scientific facility, the Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science, which was made possible through the generosity of its namesake, Malcolm Wiener. Both projects were completed successfully in the spring of 2016, despite the financial crisis in Greece. The construction of the Makriyannis Wing presented unique challenges—capital controls, bank closings, and the financial collapse of the construction company which we had been required to hire under the terms of the EU grant—but in the end we managed to finish the building in accordance with the architect's plans, and it has already hosted several splendid exhibitions.

In September of 2017, we started construction on the large *apotheke* (storage building) in Corinth and com-

pleted it in July of 2018. The Central Archaeological Council praised our work and recommended that our project be used as a benchmark for all future archaeological storage facilities.

The latest, and final, major capital campaign for our Athens campus is the Student Center expansion and renovation project. We commenced construction in December 2019, and our goal is to have the complex ready for inauguration in June 2021.

**Q: What capabilities do you bring to these projects?**

**A:** My previous construction experience was with international companies and large-scale projects that set specifications and expectations at the highest level. I apply the same philosophy to all of the School's construction projects, which results in buildings of superior quality and energy efficiency. We are also implementing the latest engineering and technology standards so that our facilities can serve the School community well into the future.

**Q: Have you encountered any problems with the Student Center project?**

**A:** With most projects, especially those involving old buildings, unforeseen issues will sometimes arise. For example, when the wood flooring of Loring Hall was removed, we discovered that the base was not constructed with the reinforced concrete slab shown in the original 1928 drawings. Instead, a steel joist structure was used, which required a major redesign to meet the current standards for load-bearing capacity. However, we are proud of our ability

to overcome these obstacles and keep projects on track.

**Q: How often do you meet with your team, and has the pandemic affected your work?**

**A:** Every Monday, I meet with a team of 14 engineers, representing the contractor, designers, and project management team. During the COVID-19 lockdown, we continued these meetings via Zoom video conferencing. Construction on the Student Center never stopped. Fortunately, the pandemic has had a

minimal effect on the project, except for short-term disruptions such as limitations on groups working on-site and some delays in material delivery. The silver lining was that dump trucks and concrete mixers found their way to our site much easier because normal city-center traffic restrictions for heavy vehicles did not apply.

**Q: What are the most rewarding aspects of these capital projects?**

**A:** The greatest rewards are knowing that our jobs were done right and on time

and having patrons enjoy using our magnificent facilities. For more than 20 years, I have admired the work of the American School. I strongly believe that it is my responsibility to use my skills and talents to support this historic institution with such a deep and profound love for my home country of Greece.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the world-class facilities at the American School, please visit [ascsa.edu.gr/research](http://ascsa.edu.gr/research).

## Major Capital Projects Overseen by Tellos Panos



Clockwise from top left: The auditorium of Cotsen Hall; the Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory; the *apothekē* in ancient Corinth; and the Ioannis Makriyannis Wing of the Gennadius Library.

## Communications

# Online Efforts Engage Global Audience

During these uncertain times, the American School community has made an incredible effort to sustain our institution and effectively serve and support our faculty, staff, and members. Despite the many disruptions to our academic and programmatic endeavors, the School was agile in its response and navigated this challenge with the same energy and determination that has defined our efforts for generations. Over the past few months, the School staff has worked diligently to pivot its operations online and to keep its audiences engaged.

As Greece went into lockdown, **Tarek Eleamam**, Information Systems and Technology Manager, quickly made all the necessary arrangements for staff who needed to work remotely. **Konstantinos Tzortzinis**, Digital Media and Website Specialist, along with **Dennis Mark**, Director of Communications, maintained a steady stream of updates on the website to keep the School community informed of the quickly changing landscape. **Lilly Kustec**, Social Media Manager, not only spread such news throughout all media platforms but, along with Konstantinos, helped to organize the video archive and to publicize and facilitate an ever-growing roster of webinars, including the *Live from the Lab* and *Live from Corinth* series, as well as



Wiener Laboratory Postdoctoral Fellow Flint Dibble and Wiener Laboratory Research Associate Meagan Dennison at their *Live from the Lab* webinar on May 19, 2020

online lectures featuring experts from various fields. Their efforts have been vital to expanding our outreach to both scholars and the general public. As of July 7, 2020, our webinars alone have generated more than 20,000 total views from 47 different countries.

We must express our sincere gratitude to **David Blandford and Katharina Hassapoyannes** for their timely gift—just before the lockdown—of crucial audio and visual equipment to enhance the live

broadcasting and videos produced by the American School.

Finally, our Publications Office, under the direction of **Carol Stein**, gave unprecedented free access to *Hesperia* and numerous other publications.

By working together as a team and learning to adapt, we have been able to maintain a dynamic connection with our community and find exciting new ways to disseminate our work and expand awareness of the School.



*"With our facilities closed to the public during the pandemic, we had to think of new ways to present our lectures. This is how the idea of E-Events was born. E-Events is a series of webinars offered by the American School on various subjects, which gives researchers the opportunity to share their work with a global audience. Based on the feedback, this has been very successful and a powerful tool for engaging people with the School."*

*"At the same time, we are producing, in collaboration with our academic colleagues, short films highlighting the School's collections. We live in an era where information travels very fast, and it is imperative that we get on board this train. The American School produces information based on the work that is carried out in many different arenas. Our goal is to disseminate this information in revolutionary ways. The unfortunate reality is that people worldwide are limited in their ability to travel, but we have the chance to bring Greece—and the American School experience—to them." – Konstantinos Tzortzinis*

## Philanthropy

# New Student Center to Become a Living Monument

The American School is pleased to announce that construction on the new Student Center is well underway. The expansion and renovation of the School's aging residential and dining facilities are expected to be completed by June 2021.

The goal of the campaign is \$9.4 million, inclusive of a maintenance endowment. Thanks to the generosity of our trustees and other donors, \$6.7 million has been raised as of June 30, 2020. On the following pages are quotes from some of the valued contributors and friends who have made this project possible.

To learn more about how you can support this historic initiative, please contact Nancy Savaides, Director of Stewardship and Engagement, at [nsavaides@ascsa.org](mailto:nsavaides@ascsa.org) or 609-454-6810. Naming opportunities for a variety of spaces in the Student Center are still available. Donors can choose from a wide range of gift levels to name a room or area in honor of themselves, an American School scholar, or a family member, friend, or group.

## Trustees Lead the Way



Trustee Edward Cohen and Betsy Cohen

The School's Trustees have provided pivotal leadership on the Student Center Campaign, having collectively raised \$5.5 million (representing 83% of the funds raised to date) to support this transformational expansion and renovation project.



Director of the School Jenifer Neils signs the construction contract for the renovation of Loring Hall. Surrounding Neils are General Manager Tellos Panos (standing, far left) and members of the construction company Sarnitec. Renowned architect Kyriakos Kyriakides is seated at right.

Diana E. E. & Fred S. Kleiner Saloni    Eugene Vanderpool Dining Room



*"When we look back, it is clear to us that the two years we were associated with the American School were among the most meaningful of our long careers, both professionally and personally. The time we spent in Athens allowed us to acquire an intimate knowledge of Greece and its archaeological sites and museums that would have been impossible to achieve through occasional short-term visits."*

*—Diana E. E. and Fred S. Kleiner*

*"Loring Hall has long been both the social and the academic center of the American School. It is appropriate that the memory of Eugene Vanderpool be properly preserved there. Like Loring Hall itself, Vanderpool was, in many ways, the heart of the School for a generation. Quiet, unassuming, and private, he as much as anyone made the School the center of learning it has become."*

*—John Camp*

## Mabel Louise Lang Apartment



*"Bryn Mawr has had a very close relationship with the School for many years. I became a great supporter knowing how valuable the School experience has been for so many of our students and faculty members. Then, as a member of the board of the School myself, I became an even greater fan. Therefore, it seemed appropriate for several of Mabel's friends to support the relationship between the institutions by funding one of the new Student Center faculty apartments in honor of Mabel Lang's own long involvement with the School."*

— Mary Patterson McPherson

## University of Cincinnati Room



*"For many of us, our time at the School was a highlight and life changing. Many of us owe our careers to the opportunities and experiences the School provides. We felt that it was time to pay some of this good fortune back by organizing the Cincinnati Classics community to contribute towards naming a room. The Cincinnati room is a thank you to the School from all of us, and it will remind residents of the new Student Center of the great connections between Cincinnati and the School."*

— Kathleen Lynch and Jack Davis

## Schmeling-Montiglio Suite



*"We are honored to be able to support the efforts of the American School in remodeling Loring Hall, in whose Queen's Megaron we have spent months in the company of congenial fellows and staff, while conducting our research at the Blegen Library and relaxing in the late afternoons at ouzo hour on the East Terrace."*

— Gareth Schmeling and  
Silvia Montiglio

## Herzig Desnick Room



*"Loring Hall kept welcoming me back, a travel weary student from the hinterlands, after intensive weeks of exploring Greece under the excellent guidance of Mark and Mary Lou Munn. There was something wonderful about returning each time to the comfortable surroundings of Loring Hall with its well-worn, overstuffed furniture, communal dining tables, well-proportioned living room, and essential laundry facilities. You could almost feel the presence of past generations of students and professors at ouzo hour on the back terrace, exchanging news, views, and laughs."*

— Julie Herzig Desnick

## Alumni Terrace



*"When the campaign for the Student Center began, there was no doubt what the alumni/ae would want to name. The East Terrace represents one of the greatest gifts that the American School has given us: the opportunity to create collegial, crossdisciplinary networks through informal and enjoyable interaction. Over the years, we have introduced these networks of friends and scholars to others, including our students and colleagues coming to the School for the first time."*

— Elizabeth Langridge-Noti

## Oscar Broneer Room



*"As Professor of Archaeology in the 1930s, Oscar Broneer pioneered the famous School trips to archaeological sites throughout Greece (after which the students happily returned to Loring Hall and a hot bath). During those years, he and his wife Verna lived in an apartment in the main building with their two boys. He later built a house in Ancient Corinth, but always returned to the School in Athens for the library and parties. He delighted in the companionship of the students at those times and regularly kept rooms in Loring Hall."*

— Friends of Oscar Broneer

**J. Walter Graham Terrace**

*"In his quiet and unassuming way, James Walter Graham made a difference in the world of Greek archaeology by inspiring students and studies of Aegean Bronze Age and Classical Greek architecture for years afterward."*

– Ian Begg

**Virginia Grace Room**

*"Virginia Grace was the founder of the study of transport amphoras. Others had studied this material before her, but no one was more responsible for defining the field's methods and goals. She knew that the full understanding of such mobile artifacts as transport amphoras could never be gained by research at one site or even within one nation, so she created a massive scholarly network of correspondents. She was a truly global scholar."*

– Mark Lawall

**Evelyn B. Harrison Room**

*"Evelyn Harrison based herself in the store-rooms of the Stoa of Attalos or the Blegen Library, where she wrote her famous articles, joined students and colleagues for tea or ouzo on the terrace at the end of the day, and always stayed in a room at the School. The American School was her true home, the constant in her life, and she always sang its praises."*

– Students of Evelyn Harrison

**John Wesley Gilbert Room**

*"Born into slavery in Georgia, John Wesley Gilbert was the first African American member of the American School. For his work in Greece, Gilbert received an A.M. from Brown University, making him one of the first Black scholars in the nation to earn an advanced degree in classical studies. As a professor at Paine College, Gilbert achieved national renown as a scholar, teacher, community leader, and missionary."*

– John W. I. Lee

**Barbara Tsakirgis Room**

*"Barbara was a happy person in general, but I cannot recall her being happier than her year spent as a scholar at the School. She loved being with the students, and was always grateful for the way everyone nurtured our two young children during the entire year. The friendships she made with the student group lasted a lifetime." – Jeremy Spinrad*

**Sterling Dow Room**

*"I hope that when students walk into the Sterling Dow room and read about his many discoveries (e.g., the kleroterion machine for allotting Athenian jurors, and his deduction, on historical grounds, that the Linear B tablets were inscribed in an early form of Greek, a deduction that was confirmed when the tablets were finally deciphered in 1953), they will be inspired to make their own contributions to our knowledge of ancient Greece."*

– Rob Loomis

**Diskin Clay Room**

*"It is a great pleasure for me to have this way of commemorating the teacher from whom I first learned about the American School. Diskin Clay encouraged his students to go to the School, to get to know the landscape of Greece, to try to see things, as far as we can, through the eyes of that culture whose written words and material remains we study."*

– Rebecca Sinos

## Fond Farewells

# Sylvian Fachard, Mellon Professor



Sylvian Fachard directed the American School's academic program from 2017 to 2020. From the beginning, the expression "Uphill with Syl" became the mantra of the Regular Members who struggled to keep up with him. On the northern trip, he led the students from Patras to Thasos, tackling as many as 10 sites per day from dawn to dusk. His other memorable trips covered central Greece, Euboea, and perhaps best of all, Delos.

Syl's innovations to the academic program also proved to have a positive impact on our students. He taught an engaging Geographic Information Systems (GIS) seminar and established a joint lecture series called *Mélé* with the École française d'Athènes, which enabled our second-year fellows to present their research in an international forum. Always flexible and good-spirited, he embraced the changes brought on by the closing of Loring Hall and produced what many of us now consider an even better schedule for the trips and seminars.

Syl leaves us to take up another prestigious professorship at the University of Lausanne; happily for us, he will also be the Director of the Swiss School in Athens. He will be much missed by the staff and our scholars, who have benefitted so much from his contributions to the life and work of the American School. In our fond farewell, we also include Syl's wife, Kalliope, and son, Phil.



*Top left:* Syl Fachard in his office at the School. *Top:* The now iconic photo of Fachard at the Acropolis. *Above:* Fachard with Regular Member Peter Moench (2017–2018) at Pharsalos.

## Spiros Triantaphyllos, Bus Driver

Spiros Triantaphyllos, who served as the American School's valiant bus driver, retired from driving our home away from home, the Kollias motorcoach. Over the last decades, members associated his blue and white bus, featuring Doric columns, with the pleasures of exploring the countryside of Greece. Spiros drove us on summer sessions, fall, and winter excursions through Attica; northwest, central, and northeast Greece; the Peloponnese; and Crete.

The School's trips are the core of the academic program and a unique feature of the American School—neither foreign schools in Athens nor Greek universities have a curriculum based on travel for graduate students. A crucial part of what made the trips so successful was a superb driver like Spiros, who always knew the best routes and allowed trip leaders to focus on what they needed to do. His

skill at negotiating treacherous and tight corners was legendary. He also made countless heroic “fixes” of the bus when necessary, including once rigging a hose as an exterior line for gas after a breakdown high in the mountains of the Peloponnese! But above all, we appreciated Spiro's keen wit, good cheer, astute observations on Greece's political climate and conditions, and knowledge of the best *tsipouradika*.

*Mas leipei o Spiros!*



Left: Members board the bus with Spiros behind the wheel. Above: Spiros Triantaphyllos.



On June 25, the School bid a fond farewell to three staff members. The celebration was held at Cotsen Hall in Athens and joined by many others via Zoom. Jenifer Neils (second from right) stands with (from left) Spiros Triantaphyllos, Sylvian Fachard, and Lilly Kustec in the Cotsen Garden.

## Lilly Kustec, Social Media Manager

Lilly Kustec has served as the American School's Social Media Manager since 2018. Working collaboratively with her colleagues in Athens and Princeton, she broadcast the work of the School to a global audience. Immersing herself in the life of the American School, Lilly traveled with students, attended exhibition openings and academic lectures, and shared these experiences on the School's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn accounts. She played an integral role during the coronavirus lockdown by managing webinars, organizing the School's video archive, and hosting various virtual Tea Talks. Lilly and her puppy, Ares, will be missed.

## Save These Dates!



### AMERICAN SCHOOL ANNUAL GALA



**THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021**

Gotham Hall | New York, NY | [gala.ascsa.org](http://gala.ascsa.org)

Celebrate with the American School at its fifth annual Gala. We will honor Edward E. Cohen with the Athens Prize and Curtis Runnels with the Gennadius Prize at Gotham Hall in New York City.

### STUDENT CENTER INAUGURATION



**SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021**

American School | Athens, Greece

Join us for the inauguration of the new Student Center on the School's campus in Athens. The ceremony will feature a ribbon-cutting ceremony, guest speakers, special events and exhibitions, and more.

For more information about these events, please contact Nancy Savaides, Director of Stewardship and Engagement, at 609-454-6810 or [nsavaides@ascsa.org](mailto:nsavaides@ascsa.org).

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